

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 295133

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 295133

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MX.

SUBJECT: SUSPECTED FIREARMS CONTROL VIOLATION

1. THE MIAMI FLORIDA POST OF THE BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS, HAS BEGUN AN INVESTIGATION OF EUGENIO KANAN, WHO ALLEGES TO BE THE CHIEF OF SECURITY FOR LOPEZ PORTILLO. ATF INVESTIGATION THUS FAR INDICATES THAT APPROXIMATELY 40 FIREARMS, HAVE BEEN PURCHASED BY KANAN THROUGH STRAW PURCHASERS UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES THAT WOULD INDICATE CRIMINAL INTENT. CUSTOMSIS ADVISED AND WILL INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE EXPORT VIOLATIONS. ATF AND CUSTOMS AWARE INVESTIGATION COULD BE SENSITIVE AND WILL PROCEED ACCORDINGLY. IT IS SUSPECTED THAT KANAN TRAVELS FREQUENTLY IN THE U.S. IN PURCHASING FIREARMS KANAN GAVE A RECEIPT STATING THAT QUOTE, "THESE WEAPONS AND OTHER MATERIALS ARE TO BE USED BY ESCORTS AND BODYGUARDS OF PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO AND MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDENT'S FAMILY". END QUOTE.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO MAKE DISCREET INQUIRY CONCERNING KANAN'S BONAFIDES. KISSINGER

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